

Docket No.: F0361.C1.D1  
Express Mail Label No.: EV129577424US

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Steven C. Avanzino, et al. : Confirmation No.:  
Serial No.: : Art Unit:  
Filed: June 26, 2003 : Examiner:  
For: **AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT WITH DIELECTRIC  
DIFFUSION BARRIER LAYER FORMED BETWEEN  
INTERCONNECTS AND INTERLAYER DIELECTRIC  
LAYERS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir/Madam:

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Divisional utility patent application, which is identified by attorney docket no. F0361.C1.D1, following the revised amendment format as set forth in the Notice "Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted". After this introductory section, there are Amendments to the Specification, Amendments to the Claims, and then, Remarks, each starting on a separate page.

Amendments to the Specification consist of changes in the Cross-Reference to Related Application Section, a paragraph that begins on page 4, line 27, and the Abstract section. Amendments to the claims consist of cancellation of claims 1-10, and amendment to claims 16-18, which are incorporated in a complete listing of the claims.